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* JUST LIKE A WOMAN *
* By Olive Atterbury *
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I had known Jenny Anderson since she was a tiny thing, but she had not confided in me the strange terms of her grandfather's will until she came into my office to ask me to defend the suit that Cousin Francis was bringing against her.

Jenny handed me the document. The essential clause ran as follows:

"Twenty thousand dollars to my granddaughter, Jenny, on condition that she marries before the fifth anniversary of her birthday.

The will was drawn in 1911, and five years and a little more had elapsed. Jenny, having been born on Feb. 29, 1896, it was clear that the income had been forfeited.

"But Cousin Francis promised me he would not take the money if I married or not," said Jenny.

"A promise is no good in law, even if there is proof of it, unless an equivalent is given," I returned. "Cousin Francis has the game."

"But I'm—you see, Mr. Allerton, I was born in leap year, on February 29," said Jenny. "I only have a birthday every four years. Grandfather always used to joke me about it. He said I'd never grow old."

I reckoned up. "Anyway, you've had five birthdays, Jenny," I said. "Even if by miracle the courts could see that point you have had five birthdays."

"But not five next birthdays," persisted Jenny.

"No, my dear, it won't go," I said. "Why didn't you marry Tommy Cowles while there was time? You played with that young man until you lost the legacy, and you'll lose him, too, if you aren't careful."

"But I haven't lost the legacy!" cried Jenny. "And I want you to sue Cousin Francis, the hateful old thing, on the ground of his promise."

"All right," I said, "but you can't win. However, we might plead that your grandfather was of unsound mind—"

"How dare you?" cried Jenny, angrily.

"All right—the promise, then," I said penitently. "I'll see what I can do for you. But it won't work, my dear."

"Well, Cousin Francis is going to



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get the right of his life," said Jenny, as she went out.

It looked to me that Cousin Francis had clinched his \$20,000. Even if a court could have been gotten to view favorably Jenny's contention of her four-years birthday, still she had had five birthdays already, and no court could possibly interpret the will as meaning five birthdays after the will was signed, or 20 years longer,